

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 06172 091800Z

60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 044741

R 091419Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8474

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: AZOREAN GOVERNMENT

TAKES OFFICE

REF: LISBON 5793 (DTG 251048Z AUG 76)

SUMMARY: POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER JOAO BOSCO MOTA AMARAL WAS SWORN IN SEPT 8 AS PRESIDENT OF THE AZOREAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. RESPONDING TO CONCILIATORY REMARKS BY MINISTER OF REPUBLIC, FIGUEIREDO, MOTA AMARAL BLUNTLY STATED THAT AZOREANS WOULD BE CONVINCED OF LISBON'S GOOD WILL LESS BY RHETORIC THAN BY CONCRETE ACTIONS. HIS REMARKS WERE A SHARP REMINDER OF LINGERING SUSPICIONS AND RESENTMENT IN THE ISLANDS. END SUMMARY.

1. AZOREAN GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE: POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY LEADER JOAO BOSCO MOTA AMARAL WAS SWORN-IN SEPT 8
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 06172 091800Z

AS PRESIDENT OF THE AZOREAN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. THE

CEREMONY IN PONTA DELGADA WAS MARKED BY REASSURANCES OF LISBON'S COMMITMENT TO AUTONOMY FROM MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC GEN GALVAO DE FIGUEIREDO AND BLUNT WORDS IN RESPONSE FROM MOTA AMARAL.

-- REASSURANCES FROM LISBON: FIGUEIREDO WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS IN ATTEMPTING TO LAY TO REST FEARS THAT EITHER HE OR THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WOULD SEEK TO DOMINATE AZOREAN AFFAIRS. "NEITHER I NOR MY STAFF INTEND TO BECOME A PARALLEL GOVERNMENT. GOVERNING OF THE REGION, WITHIN CONSTITUTIONALLY-PRESCRIBED LIMITS, WILL BE IN THE HANDS OF THE ORGANS OF THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. I WILL SERVE AS A LINK BETWEEN THE REGIONAL AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS. I WILL DEFEND WITH ALL MY STRENGTH THE JUST CAUSES OF THE AZOREAN POPULATION."

-- DOUBTS FROM THE AZORES: MOTA AMARAL SEEMED UNCONVINCED. IN REMARKS WHICH HE HIMSELF CHARACTERIZED AS PERHAPS OVERLY HARSH, HE SAID AZOREANS WOULD BE CONVINCED OF LISBON'S GOOD WILL LESS BY RHETORIC THAN BY CONCRETE ACTIONS. HE CRITICIZED THE CREATION OF A "FULL-FLEDGED MINISTRY" BEING SET UP IN LISBON TO OVERSEE THE AUTONOMOUS REGIONS. HE WARNED THAT UNDER THE GUISE OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THIS MINISTRY COULD BECOME A METHOD OF TRANSFERRING TO LISBON BASIC DECISIONS WHICH SHOULD BE MADE IN THE AZORES.

2. FSP ABANDONS GDUP: POPULAR SOCIALIST FRONT LEADERS ANNOUNCED SEPT 8 THAT THE FSP WAS PULLING OUT OF THE GDUP "POPULAR POWER" MOVEMENT. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FSP ANNOUNCEMENT INCLUDED:

-- THE GDUP HAD STRAYED FROM ITS ORIGINAL DEMOCRATIC PURPOSES. IT HAD BEEN DIVERTED BY HEGEMONIC PRETENSIONS OF THE UDP AND ITS SATELLITE THE PCP (R).

-- UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS THE HOLDING OF THE GDUP CONGRESS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT MONTH WOULD BE A "MONUMENTAL FRAUD." REPRESENTATION WAS ALREADY STACKED IN FAVOR OF THE UDP AND THE OUTCOME WAS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION.

-- THE GDUP MOVEMENT IS CURRENTLY AN "EMPTY BALLOON." A WELL-ORCHESTRATED PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN HIDES FAILURE OF THE MOVEMENT TO FULFILL ITS STATED OBJECTIVES OF MOBILIZING THE MASSES FOR POLITICAL ACTION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LISBON 06172 091800Z

-- THE SINISTER HAND OF THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA LIES BEHIND UDP EFFORTS TO MONOPOLIZE THE GDUP.

3. REACTIONS TO FSP DEFECTION: THE PROVISIONAL GDUP NATIONAL SECRETARIAT ISSUED A PRESS STATEMENT REGRETTING THE FSP DECISION. SOCIALIST-INCLINED "A LUTA" HIGHLIGHTED FSP ANTI-CHINESE STATEMENTS AS LABELING THE FSP ACTION "MADE IN MOSCOW." (COMMENT:

THE FSP ACTION IS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE INABILITY OF THE HETEROGENEOUS GDUP MEMBERSHIP TO PULL TOGETHER (REFTEL). GDUP, AT THIS POINT, IS A LITTLE MORE THAN THE UDP. AS ALWAYS, THE COMMUNISTS ARE WAITING TO PICK UP THE PIECES.)

4. REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEETS: THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL ON SEPT 8 HELD A ROUTINE MEETING. A BRIEF STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE MEETING SAID ONLY THAT THE RC HAD CONSIDERED CERTAIN MILITARY MATTERS, EXAMINED PROBLEMS RELATED TO MILITARY TRIBUNALS, AND REVIEWED PROGRESS IN THE OPORTO TERRORIST NET INVESTIGATIONS.

5. COMMENT: MOTA AMARAL'S BLUNT REMARKS AT HIS SWEARING-IN CEREMONY ARE A SHARP REMINDER OF LINGERING SUSPICIONS AND RESENTMENT IN THE ISLANDS. CARLUCCI

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, AZORES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LISBON06172
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760341-0744
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760978/aaaacovl.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 LISBON 5793
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 MAR 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: AZOREAN GOVERNMENT TAKES OFFICE
TAGS: PINT, PO, (AMARAL, JOAO BOSCO MOTA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006